(b) In the current prices of petroleum products, the full costs of operation involving exploration, production, processing and marketing are not being recovered.

(c) and (d) The price changes for petroleum products depend on a number of factors like international price of crude/products, the exchange rates, trends in domestic production, its costs, and imports etc.

Manpower Racket

*38. SHRI BISHAMBHAR NATH PANDE:
SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that manpower racket is going on in the country whereby innocent people lose their money and are suffering; and

(b) what preventive measures Government are taking to save the innocent job seekers from being exploited by the job racketeers?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) 'Police' is a state subject and as such registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes including the crime of cheating workers is the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. However, the Central Government is aware of complaints received from workers from time to time regarding cheating and extortion of money by recruiting agencies from intending emigrants.

(b) The Emigration Act, 1983 provides measures for the protection and welfare of emigrants. Complaints against registered recruiting agents are enquired into with the help of police and the concerned Indian Mission abroad and action is taken as appropriate in each case in accordance with the provisions of the Act and Rules framed thereunder. Complaints against unregistered recruiting agents are referred to the Police for appropriate action. Complaints against foreign employers are taken up with the Embassies and Recruiting Agents concerned.

Foreign secretary level talks between India and Pakistan

*39. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI G.G. SWELL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the talks recently held between the Indian and Pakistani Foreign Secretaries at Islamabad failed;

(b) if so, what are the areas covered at the talks;

(c) what are the issues on which differences between the two countries persist; and

(d) whether any further talks are proposed to be held between India and Pakistan, if so when and at what level?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) The Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan met at Islamabad from 1—3 January, 1994. At these talks, the entire range of bilateral issues including differences related to Jammu & Kashmir issue were discussed.

(c) It was recognised that divergences exist on a number of bilateral issues including Pakistan's support for terrorism and subversion directed against India, people-to-people contacts between the two coutries, Pakistan's hostile propaganda, its continued efforts for internationalisation of bilateral issues and differences related to Jammu and Kashmir.

(d) At the Foreign Secretary-level talks held between India and Pakistan at Islamabad from 1—3 January, 1994 the two sides reiterated the need to engage in a bilateral dialogue. Government expressed its readiness to draw a schedule

for further talks. Pakistan, however, was unwilling to commit itself to any time-frame for further talks and attempted to link the scheduling of future talks with the ground situation in J&K including level of security forces deployed against terrorists in J&K and discussion on the modalities of a plebiscite, which Government have consistently regarded as unacceptable.

During the period since the Foreign Secretary level talks concluded, Pakistan has indulged in a highly provocative propaganda compaign against India and has stepped up its efforts to internationalise the J&K issue. This has vitiated the climate of relations and has a negative impact on the bilateral process.

Branches of ISI

*40. DR. SANJAYA SINH:
SHRI P. UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Pakistan ISI has set its branches in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and how much arms etc. have been collected by this organisation and since when they are functioning in the country; and

(c) what steps have been taken to check the activities of this organisation and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): (a) to (c) Govt. is aware of the designs of ISI of Pakistan to carry out espionage, subversion and sabotages in India in a clandestine manner and is taking all necessary steps to combat and frustrate such objectives by gearing up the intelligence machinery, sharing of intelligence and coordinated action by the concerned Central and State agencies, strengthening the deployment of para-military forces at strategic locations, intensified coastal as well as inland patrolling, construction of border fencing and flood-lighting in vulnerable stretches of the Indo-Pak border.

Closure of Industrial units in Agra to protect Taj Mahal

200. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had recently ordered the closing down of industrial units of Agra to protect the beauty of Taj Mahal;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that Government propose to issue similar orders in case of stone quarries and mines working in the close vicinity of bird sancturies and tourist spots of the country; and

(c) if so, by when such orders are likely to be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) On 27.8.1993 and on 3.12.1993 the Hon'ble Supreme Court ordered the closure of 300 industrial units situated in Agra and Firozabad, which come under the Taj Trapezium zone, for non-compliance of the prescribed emission standards. Subsequently, the Hon'ble Court have suspended the closure order in respect of 125 units which have installed air pollution control devices, in order to enable the U.P. Pollution Control Board to check the adequacy and efficiency of these devices.

(b) and (c) State Pollution Control Boards, under various provisions of Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, do take action against units including stone quarries and mines working in the close vicinity of bird sancturies and tourist spots of the country, if they do not comply with the prescribed standards.